

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-04 COME-00 RSC-01 /016 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:RBMORLEY:JES

APPROVED BY NEA/INS:DKUX

COMMERCE:MADERHOLD (INFO)

EB/CBA - MR. NESVIG (INFO)

NEA: MR. MATTER (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

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E.O11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL

REF: NEW DELHI 14296

LAINGEN FROM KUX

1. MORLEY MET WITH U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REP JOHNSON
OCTOBER 25 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ROLE OF CHAMBER IN FORMATION
JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL. JOHNSON SAID CHAMBER CONTINUES TO
BE INTERESTED AND WOULD BE LOGICAL CHOICE COORDINATE EFFORT
FROM U.S. SIDE. HOWEVER, CHAMBER SERIOUSLY UNDERSTAFFED
AT PRESENT AND COULD NOT MAKE POSITIVE DECISION IMMEDIATELY.
CHAMBER GIVING CONSIDERATION TO INCREASING BUDGET
OF CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS RELATIONS (SECTION
OF CHAMBER DEALING WITH INTERNATIONAL MATTERS). IF BUDGET
INCREASE APPROVED,JOHNSON WAS OPTIMISTIC CHAMBER WOULD
BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL.
IF CHAMBER FORCED TO MAKE DECISION IMMEDIATELY, HOWEVER,
DECISION WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGATIVE BECAUSE OF BUDGETARY
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AND STAFFING CONSIDERATIONS. DECISION ON BUDGET INCREASE

EXPECTED TO BE MADE WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

2. SUGGEST THEREFORE THAT WE ACCEPT INDIAN POSITION OUT-
LINED REFTEL AND DELAY DISCUSSION OF JOINT BUSINESS
COUNCIL UNTIL FIRST MEETING ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SUBCOMMISS-
ION. THIS WOULD GIVE U.S. CHAMBER CHANCE TO REACT TO
OUR PROPOSAL WITH BEST CHANCE OF ACCEPTANCE. INGERSOLL

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